

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. *(Currently Amended)* A method comprising:  
~~maintaining subscriber-specific subscriber information on at least one home subscriber of a telecommunication network;~~  
~~maintaining at least two different tariff models for the home subscribers, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls;~~  
~~maintaining in the subscriber-specific subscriber information an indication of a tariff model to be used with the home subscriber to charge different calls, the tariff model being one of said at least two different tariff models and the indication indicating the tariff model directly or indirectly;~~  
~~detecting that the a home subscriber is making a call;~~  
~~obtaining, in response to the detecting, subscriber-specific subscriber information on the home subscriber from a database;~~  
~~detecting that the subscriber-specific subscriber information comprises an indication of a tariff model to be used with the home subscriber to charge different calls, the indicated tariff model being one of at least two different tariff models maintained in a memory for home subscribers, each tariff model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, the indication indicating the tariff model directly or indirectly;~~  
~~determining, via a processor in response to the detecting that the subscriber-specific subscriber information comprises the indication, a tariff model to be used based on the indication in the home subscriber's subscriber-specific subscriber information;~~  
~~obtaining, from the memory by the processor, a tariff scheme to be used based on the determined tariff model; and~~  
~~calculating a charge for the call according to the obtained tariff scheme.~~
2. *(Previously Presented)* A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising defining one tariff model to be a default model which is used when no other tariff model is indicated.

3.     *(Previously Presented)* A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the telecommunications network is configured to offer a prepaid service to its subscribers and said at least one subscriber is a prepaid subscriber.
4.     *(Previously Presented)* A method as claimed in claim 3, the method further comprising:
- using at least two different types of vouchers for making deposits into subscribers prepaid accounts;
  - attaching one tariff model at least to each of said two different types of vouchers;
  - maintaining in the subscriber-specific subscriber information an indication of the type of voucher used last for depositing subscriber's prepaid account; and
  - determining the tariff model to be used on the basis of the voucher type indicated in the subscriber's subscriber-specific subscriber information.
5.     *(Previously Presented)* A method as claimed in claim 4, the method further comprising:
- defining in the subscriber-specific subscriber information the voucher types allowed to this subscriber;
  - checking from the subscriber-specific subscriber information during depositing if the voucher is allowed to this subscriber; and
  - if the voucher is an allowed one, continuing depositing;
  - if the voucher is not an allowed one, terminating depositing.
6.     *(Previously Presented)* A method as claimed in claim 4, the method further comprising:
- defining at least two different prepaid profiles, each profile defining at least the allowed voucher types;
  - associating a subscriber's subscriber-specific subscriber information with one prepaid profile;
  - checking during depositing if the voucher is allowed to this subscriber from the prepaid profile definitions indicated in the subscriber-specific subscriber information; and

if the voucher is an allowed one, continuing depositing;  
if the voucher is not an allowed one, terminating depositing.

7. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, the method further comprising:

defining at least two different subscriber profiles,  
attaching at least to each of said two different profiles one tariff model so that a profile is attached to a first tariff model and a second profile is attached to a second tariff model;

maintaining in the subscriber-specific subscriber information an indication of a subscriber profile to be used;

determining the tariff model to be used on the basis of the subscriber profile indicated in the subscriber's subscriber-specific subscriber information.

8. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

~~using at least two different types of vouchers for making deposits into subscribers prepaid accounts, the subscribers being prepaid subscribers of a telecommunications network offering a prepaid service;~~

~~maintaining at least two different tariff models for said prepaid subscribers, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls;~~

~~attaching at least to each of said two types of vouchers one tariff model so that a first voucher type is attached to a first tariff model and a second voucher type is attached to a second tariff model;~~

detecting that a prepaid subscriber is making a call;

determining, via a processor, the a tariff model to be used based on ~~the a~~ voucher the prepaid subscriber has last used for depositing the prepaid subscriber's prepaid account; and

charging the prepaid subscriber for the call by reducing a value of available credit on the prepaid subscriber's prepaid account during the call according to ~~the a~~ tariff scheme of the determined tariff model, wherein

at least two different tariff models are maintained in a memory for prepaid subscribers, each tariff model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, and

at least two different types of vouchers for making deposits into subscribers prepaid accounts can be used, each of said two types of vouchers being attached to one tariff model amongst the at least two different tariff models so that a first voucher type is attached to a first tariff model and a second voucher type is attached to a second tariff model.

9. (Previously Presented) A telecommunications system comprising:

memory configured to maintain definitions of at least two different kinds of tariff models for home subscribers, each tariff model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls;

at least one database having subscriber-specific subscriber information on at least one home subscriber, the subscriber-specific subscriber information on the at least one home subscriber comprising an indication of a tariff model to be used with the at least one home subscriber to charge different calls, the tariff model being one of said at least two different tariff models and the indication indicating the tariff model directly or indirectly; and

a network node configured to charge the at least one home subscriber according to the tariff scheme of the tariff model indicated in the subscriber-specific subscriber information.

10. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the network node is further configured to use one tariff model, defined as a default tariff model, when no other tariff model is indicated.

11. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 9, wherein the system is configured to offer prepaid service to its subscribers and said at least one subscriber is a prepaid subscriber.

12. (Previously Presented) A system as claimed in claim 11, wherein the system is configured to allow use of at least two different types of vouchers for depositing subscribers

prepaid accounts, and to maintain information on types of vouchers allowed to the subscriber and to check during depositing if the voucher the subscriber is depositing is an allowed one.

13. *(Previously Presented)* A network element device comprising:

means configured to be in connection with another network element device in a telecommunication system where subscriber-specific subscriber information is maintained,

means configured to determine which one of at least two different tariff models defined in the system is to be used with a subscriber from the subscriber-specific subscriber information comprising an indication of a tariff model to be used with the subscriber to charge different calls of the subscriber, the indication indicating the subscriber's tariff model directly or indirectly, each tariff model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge a different calls, and

means for using the tariff scheme of the indicated tariff model when charging the subscriber.

14. *(Currently Amended)* A data structure embodied in computer storage media executable by a processor, the data structure comprising:

at least two different kinds of tariff models, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, and

subscriber-specific subscriber information comprising an indication of which one of the at least two different tariff models is to be used with a subscriber, the indication indicating the tariff model directly or indirectly.

15. *(Previously Presented)* A data structure as claimed in claim 14, wherein

the data structure also comprises at least two different kinds of profile definitions to each of which one tariff model is attached, and

the subscriber-specific subscriber information comprises information on which profile to use with the subscriber.

16. *(Previously Presented)* A data structure as claimed in claim 14, wherein

the data structure also comprises voucher information for at least two different types of vouchers by means of which subscribers may deposit their prepaid accounts, and the subscriber-specific subscriber information comprises information on the type of voucher the subscriber used last for depositing subscriber's prepaid account.

17. *(Currently Amended)* A data structure embodied in computer storage media executable by a processor, the data structure comprising:

at least two different kinds of tariff models, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, and

voucher information comprising information on at least two different types of vouchers by means of which subscribers may deposit their prepaid accounts, the voucher information further attaching each of said at least two different types of vouchers to one tariff model so that a first voucher type is attached to a first tariff model and a second voucher type is attached to a second tariff model,

wherein the tariff model of a subscriber is deducible from the voucher information based on the basis of the voucher type the subscriber used last for depositing the subscriber's prepaid account.

18. *(Previously Presented)* A processor comprising:

executable instructions configured to determine which tariff model amongst at least two different tariff models is to be used with a subscriber from subscriber-specific subscriber information comprising an indication of a tariff model to be used with the subscriber, the indication indicating the subscriber's tariff model directly or indirectly; and

executable instructions configured to use a tariff scheme of the indicated tariff model when charging the subscriber, each tariff model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls.

19. *(Previously Presented)* A network element device comprising:

memory configured to comprise at least two different kinds of tariff models, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, and subscriber-specific subscriber information comprising an indication of a tariff model to be used with a home subscriber to charge different calls, the tariff model being one of said at least two

different kinds of tariff models and the indication indicating the tariff model directly or indirectly; and

a processor configured to determine which one of the tariff is to be used with the home subscriber from the subscriber-specific subscriber information, to determine a tariff using time definitions in the indicated tariff model, and to use the tariff scheme in the indicated tariff model when charging the home subscriber.

20. *(Previously Presented)* The network element device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the memory is further configured to comprise at least two different kinds of profile definitions to each of which one tariff model is attached, and, as subscriber-specific subscriber information, further information on which profile to use with the subscriber, and the processor is configured to deduce from the profile the tariff model of the subscriber.

21. *(Previously Presented)* The network element device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the memory is configured to further comprise voucher information for at least two different types of vouchers, and, as subscriber-specific subscriber information on prepaid subscribers who may deposit their prepaid accounts by means of vouchers, information on the type of voucher a subscriber used last for depositing subscriber's prepaid account, and the processor is configured to deduce the tariff model of a prepaid subscriber from the voucher information on the basis of the voucher type the prepaid subscriber is currently using.

22. *(Previously Presented)* A network element device comprising:  
memory configured to comprise at least two different kinds of tariff models, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls and voucher information comprising information on at least two different types of vouchers by means of which subscribers may deposit their prepaid accounts, the voucher information further attaching each of said at least two different types of vouchers to one tariff model so that a first voucher type is attached to a first tariff model and a second voucher type is attached to a second tariff model, and

a processor configured to deduce a tariff model of a subscriber from the voucher information based on a voucher type the subscriber used last for depositing the subscriber's prepaid account.

23. *(Previously Presented)* A processor comprising:

executable instructions configured to deduce from voucher information which tariff model amongst at least two different tariff models is to be used with a subscriber based on a voucher type the subscriber used last for depositing the subscriber's prepaid account, each tariff model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls and attaching each of said at least two different types of vouchers to one tariff model so that a first voucher type is attached to a first tariff model and a second voucher type is attached to a second tariff model.

24. *(Previously Presented)* A data structure embodied in computer media executable by a processor, the data structure comprising:

at least two different kinds of tariff models, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, a first of said at least two different tariff models containing a first tariff scheme and a second of said at least two different tariff models containing a second tariff scheme having a different time definition than the first tariff scheme, said time definitions being used when a tariff is determined.

25. *(Previously Presented)* A method comprising:

maintaining subscriber-specific subscriber information on at least one home subscriber in a telecommunication network:

maintaining at least two different tariff models for the home subscribers, each model containing a tariff scheme defining how to charge different calls, a first of said at least two different tariff models containing a first tariff scheme and a second of said at least two different tariff models containing a second tariff scheme having a different time definition than the first tariff scheme;

maintaining in the subscriber-specific subscriber information an indication of a tariff model to be used with the home subscriber to charge different calls, the tariff model being



one of said at least two different tariff models and the indication indicating the tariff model directly or indirectly; and

- in response to call chargeable from the home subscriber,
- determining a tariff model to be used based on the indication in the home subscriber's subscriber information;
- obtaining a tariff scheme to be used based on the tariff model;
- determining a tariff for the call at least based on the time definitions of the obtained tariff scheme; and
- calculating a charge for the call using the determined tariff.